

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sealable, twist opening container comprising:

a container body having a closed end, an open end and side walls extending there-between, said open end further comprising an outwardly curled flange with a leading edge oriented inwardly toward a neck of said container body;

5 a closure ring mounted on said neck of said container body and comprising an upper end, a lower end and engagement means positioned therebetween;

a flange engagement means positioned on an upper end of said closure ring for functionally interconnecting said outwardly curled flange to said closure ring;

a two piece lid closure comprising a skirt portion and a cap portion in operable[[y]]
10 engagement positioned within with an upper portion of said skirt portion, said skirt portion having a closure means with an upwardly oriented shoulder positioned below said cap portion for selectively interconnecting said skirt portion to said closure ring, wherein when said skirt portion is rotated in one direction said two-piece lid closure is brought to a closed and sealed condition, and
15 said upwardly oriented shoulder is engaged with said closure ring and spaced away from said cap portion, and when said skirt portion is rotated in an opposite direction, said upwardly oriented shoulder, is disengaged from said closure ring and moves upwardly to engage said cap portion, wherein said cap portion is tilted during removal.

2. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, further comprising an elastomeric sealing material operably interconnected to an inner surface of said cap and positioned substantially opposite an upper end of said curled flange.

3. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 2, wherein said elastomeric material is comprised of at least one of a polyethylene, a polyvinyl, a polypropylene, an acetal and a synthetic material.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 4, wherein said closure ring expands downwardly when heated, wherein a force between said closure ring and a shoulder of said skirt portion is increased.

6. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said flange engagement means comprises a bulb with a slot positioned therein, said slot sized to operatively receive said leading edge of said outwardly curled flange, wherein said closure ring is impeded from rotational and vertical movement.

7. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein an upper end of said skirt portion further comprises a curled end which functionally opposes an upper end of said container curled flange to provide a flexible sealing engagement therebetween.

8. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said closure ring is comprised of at least one of a polyethylene, a polypropylene, a nylon, a acetal, a synthetic material and combinations therein.

9. (Currently Amended) The twist opening container of Claim 1, further comprising a release tab interconnected to a perimeter edge of said cap portion, wherein when said skirt portion is rotated in said opposite direction, said release tab engages a portion of said upwardly oriented shoulder to facilitate opening of said cap portion by opening one end of said cap portion prior to an opposing end.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said twist opening container is capable of being heated to a temperature of at least about 250°F.

12. (Original) The twist opening container of Claim 1, wherein said closure ring is a metallic material integrally interconnected to a portion of said container body.

13-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A sealable, twist opening metallic container adapted for storing a perishable solid or liquid, comprising:

a container body having a closed end, an open end and side walls extending there-between, said open end further comprising an outwardly curled flange with a leading edge oriented inwardly toward a neck of said container body;

a non-metallic closure ring mounted on said neck of said container body and comprising an upper end, a lower end and an engagement means positioned therebetween, said engagement means having a substantially circular geometric cross-sectional shape for operably interconnecting said outwardly curled flange to said non-metallic closure ring;

a two piece lid closure comprising a skirt portion and a cap portion operably engaged to an upper portion of ~~positioned within~~ said skirt portion, said skirt portion having a closure means including an upwardly oriented shoulder for selectively interconnecting said two-piece lid closure to said closure ring, wherein when said skirt portion is rotated in one direction said upwardly oriented shoulder engages said closure ring below said cap portion and said two-piece lid closure is brought to a closed and sealed condition, and said upwardly oriented shoulder is engaged with said closure ring and spaced away from said cap portion, and when said skirt portion is rotated in an opposite direction, said upwardly oriented shoulder of said skirt portion is disengaged from said enclosure ring and moves upwardly to engage[[s]] said cap portion to facilitate opening, wherein said twist opening metallic container is brought to an open condition.

19. (Original) The twist opening metallic container of claim 18, further comprising an elastomeric sealing material operably interconnected to an inner surface of said cap and positioned substantially opposite an upper end of said curled flange.

20. (Original) The twist opening metallic container, of Claim 19, wherein said elastomeric sealing material is comprised of at least one of a polyethylene, a polypropylene, a nylon, an acetal, a synthetic material, a foam and combinations therein.

21. (Previously Presented) The twist opening metallic container of Claim 18, wherein when the perishable solid or liquid stored within said metallic container is heated to a predetermined temperature, a downward force is applied to a shoulder of said skirt portion of said two-piece lid closure.

22. (Original) The twist opening metallic container of claim 18, wherein said closure ring expands when heated.

23. (Original) The twist opening metallic container of claim 18, wherein said non-metallic closure ring is comprised of at least one foam polyethylene, a polypropylene, a nylon, an acetal, a synthetic material and combinations therein.

24. (Previously Presented) The twist opening metallic container of Claim 18, further comprising a release tab functionally interconnected to a perimeter edge of said cap portion, wherein when said skirt portion is rotated in said opposite direction, said release tab engages said upwardly oriented shoulder of said skirt portion to facilitate opening of said cap portion by opening one end
5 of said cap portion prior to an opposing end.